

Remarks

This is a Response to the Official Action dated November 1, 2004.

Claims 25-26 are currently pending in the Application and Claims 27-28 are newly presented herein.

Allowable Claims

The Applicant acknowledges with gratitude the Examiner's indication of allowability as to Claims 25-26.

Specification

The response amends paragraph at page 4, lines 11-30 of the specification for clarity.

The response amends paragraph at page 5, lines 1-25 of the specification for clarity.

The response amends paragraph at page 5, line 26 to page 6, line 30 of the specification for clarity.

The response amends paragraph at page 7, lines 15-26 of the specification for clarity.

The response amends paragraph at page 9, line 9 to page 10, line 18 of the specification for clarity.

The response amends paragraph at page 10, line 19 to page 12, line 13 of the specification for clarity.

The response amends paragraph at page 13, lines 4-15 of the specification for clarity.

Claims 25-26

This response amends Claims 25-26 to clarify the scope of the invention.

New Claims

This response adds new claims 27-28. The new claims are used to broaden the scope of the invention and are **not** offered in response to the Examiner's rejections. The support for the new Claims 27-28 can be found, for example, in the original Claims 25-26.

35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection

Claims 25-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

According to the Examiner the phrase “implanting a first conductive plug to penetrate the first conductive layer via the first opening” as recited in Claim 25 fails to reflect the claimed invention. The phrase “implanting a first conductive plug to penetrate the first conductive layer via the first opening” as recited in Claim 25 has been replaced with the phrase “forming a first conductive plug in the first opening to contact the first conductive layer” as suggested by the Examiner on page 2 of the Office Action and Applicant respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn.

The Examiner further asserts that the phrase “implanting a second conductive plug to penetrate the second dielectric layer via the second opening” as recited in Claim 25 also fails to reflect the claimed invention. The phrase “implanting a second conductive plug to penetrate the second dielectric layer via the second opening” as recited in Claim 25 has been replaced with the phrase “forming a second conductive plug in the second opening to contact the third conductive layer” as suggested by the Examiner on page 2 of the Office Action and Applicant respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn.

Finally, the Examiner objects to the numbering of the conductive layer within Claim 26. Claim 26 has been amended to overcome this objection and Applicant respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn.

Patentability of new Claim 27

New Claim 27 recites, inter alia, “providing a substrate; forming a first conductor, a second conductor and a first dielectric layer on the substrate, wherein the first conductor and the second conductor are disposed between the substrate and the first dielectric layer; forming a third conductor, a fourth conductor and a second dielectric layer on the first dielectric layer, wherein the third conductor and the fourth conductor are disposed

between the second dielectric layer and the first dielectric layer; forming a plurality of openings to expose the first conductor, the second conductor, the third conductor and the fourth conductor; forming a conductive plug within each opening of the plurality of openings; forming a fifth conductor on the second dielectric layer to be in electrical contact with the fourth conductor through the conductive plug within one of the opening of the plurality of openings; forming a sixth conductor on the second dielectric layer to be in electrical contact with the second conductor through the conductive plug within one of the opening of the plurality of openings; forming a seventh conductor on the second dielectric layer; forming an eighth conductor on the second dielectric layer to be in electrical contact with the first conductor through the conductive plug within one of the opening of the plurality of openings; forming a ninth conductor on the second dielectric layer to be in electrical contact with the third conductor through the conductive plug within one of the opening of the plurality of openings; and forming a tenth conductor on the second dielectric layer.” Applicant submits that at least these features are not disclosed by the prior art. Support for new Claim 27 can, for example, be found in the originally submitted Claim 25. Hence, Claim 27 is patentable and should be allowed by the Examiner.

Patentability of new Claim 28

New Claim 28 recites, inter alia, “providing a substrate; forming a first conductor, a second conductor, a third conductor, a fourth conductor and a first dielectric layer on the substrate, wherein the first conductor, the second conductor, the third conductor and the fourth conductor are disposed between the substrate and the first dielectric layer; forming a fifth conductor, a sixth conductor, a seventh conductor, an eighth conductor and a second dielectric layer on the first dielectric layer, wherein the fifth conductor, the sixth conductor, the seventh conductor and the eighth conductor are disposed between the second dielectric layer and the first dielectric layer; forming a plurality of openings to expose the first conductor, the second conductor, the third conductor, the fourth conductor, the fifth conductor, the sixth conductor, the seventh conductor and the eighth conductor; forming a conductive plug within each opening of the plurality of openings; forming a ninth conductor on the second dielectric layer to be in electrical contact with

the fifth conductor through the conductive plug within one of the opening of the plurality of openings; forming a tenth conductor on the second dielectric layer to be in electrical contact with the first conductor through the conductive plug within one of the opening of the plurality of openings; forming an eleventh conductor on the second dielectric layer to be in electrical contact with the third conductor through the conductive plug within one of the opening of the plurality of openings; forming a twelfth conductor on the second dielectric layer to be in electrical contact with the seventh conductor through the conductive plug within one of the opening of the plurality of openings; forming a thirteenth conductor on the second dielectric layer; forming a fourteenth conductor on the second dielectric layer to be in electrical contact with the eighth conductor through the conductive plug within one of the opening of the plurality of openings; forming a fifteenth conductor on the second dielectric layer to be in electrical contact with the fourth conductor through the conductive plug within one of the opening of the plurality of openings; forming a sixteenth conductor on the second dielectric layer to be in electrical contact with the second conductor through the conductive plug within one of the opening of the plurality of openings; forming a seventeenth conductor on the second dielectric layer to be in electrical contact with the sixth conductor through the conductive plug within one of the opening of the plurality of openings; and forming an eighteenth conductor on the second dielectric layer.” Applicant submits that at least these features are not disclosed by the prior art. Support for new Claim 28 can, for example, be found in the originally submitted Claim 26. Hence, Claim 28 is patentable and should be allowed by the Examiner.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

January 25, 2005
(Date of Deposit)

Corinda Humphrey
(Name of Person Signing)

Corinda Humphrey
(Signature)

January 25, 2005
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Respectfully submitted,



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